

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO HELP ELIMINATE UNCER-
TAINTY FOR MILITARY AND
OVERSEAS VOTERS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce legislation, with my colleagues Representatives CHARLES GONZALEZ and MICHAEL HONDA, which would help eliminate uncertainty for military and overseas voters when they request an absentee ballot this year that they will get ballots for each of the elections for the full year when voting absentee.

The Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act of 2009 repealed several subsections of Section 104 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA), which has caused concern among overseas voting groups that this change may result in a situation in which a military or overseas voter might vote in a primary election but not receive ballots for the general election. This legislation would amend UOCAVA to make clarifications to the law and ensure that voters who request an absentee ballot will receive ballots for each election that occurs during the full election cycle.

The MOVE Act was a major step forward in the reform and modernization of UOCAVA; however, this particular change may have unintended consequences. As we are in the 2012 election cycle, we need to ensure that this does not inadvertently disenfranchise large swaths of our military and overseas voters. This bill proposes simple fixes that will help ensure the votes of every overseas American are counted.

LAWRENCE SALAZAR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Lawrence Salazar for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Lawrence Salazar is a 10th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Lawrence Salazar is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Lawrence Salazar for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

WINDPLANNERS OF CAMDEN
HILLS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight the outstanding accomplishments of a group of students in my district.

For the last 8 years, the Windplanners of Camden Hills Regional High School have endeavored to bring a full-size wind turbine to their school. What started out as a vision has now become a reality. After conducting feasibility studies, earning the support of their community, raising a half-million dollars, and clearing bureaucratic hurdles, the students erected a 155-foot turbine at their school this spring.

In the first week of operation alone, the turbine generated enough electricity to power six households for a month. Over the years, this project will save their school thousands of dollars, keep hundreds of tons of carbon emissions out of the air, and stand as a tribute to what a committed group can do—whatever their age may be.

I'm very proud of these students and the teachers and community members who have supported them. They have learned real-world lessons that will serve them well—and have taught us all some important lessons in the process.

RECOGNIZING FOND DU LAC
SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR 21ST CEN-
TURY READINESS

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, in order for our students to be competitive in the global economy, we must do our part to ensure that they are acquiring the knowledge and skills they need for success. The skills needed for success go beyond the basics of reading, writing, and math, however. When surveyed, employers continually emphasize that, in our 21st century economy, students need to be adept at critical thinking and problem solving; communication; collaboration; and creativity and innovation, in addition to being proficient in core subjects.

While it's important to talk about these skills, it's even more important to see and recognize where they are being successfully incorporated into educational curriculums at the local level. Fond du Lac School District, located in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, in my congressional district, is doing a lot of innovative work to prepare its students for success in the 21st century economy. Along with officials from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the Partnership for 21st Century Skills, I recently visited the Fond du Lac School District to learn about their efforts firsthand.

The Fond du Lac School District, through the leadership of Superintendent Dr. James Sebert and John Whitsett, the School District's Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, rewrote the school's entire cur-

riculum in 2005 to fully incorporate 21st century skills. This fall, all students will be given Google Chromebooks to help further integrate technology into their education. Also this fall, the Fond du Lac Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Academy will open to many 3rd through 5th graders through lead teacher Sarah Edbauer. The STEM Academy will focus not only on a rigorous STEM curriculum, but it will also place a heavy emphasis on project-based and student-led learning as a method for teaching 21st century skills.

The STEM Academy in Fond du Lac is a good example of how community partnerships can broaden students' educational experience. Mercury Marine, based in Fond du Lac, is a world leader in marine propulsion and technology and a major manufacturer of outboard motors and inboard engines. The company has partnered in the development of the school's STEM Academy because of difficulties it has experienced finding qualified applicants to meet its workforce needs. The company conveyed, as have numerous other employers, that the nature of manufacturing jobs is changing and that successful employees need to be creative, need to be able to problem solve, and need to be able to work collaboratively with other coworkers, amongst other skills. Through the company's partnership with the Fond du Lac STEM Academy, it is hoping to grow a local workforce by getting students engaged in practical, real-world projects that will help them develop the skills they need to be successful when they enter the workforce.

It's important that Congress recognize the work that is being done in communities like Fond du Lac and that we look for ways to support these efforts. For these reasons, Rep. DAVE LOEBSACK and I recently formed the bipartisan Congressional 21st Century Skills Caucus to inform and discuss better ways to promote 21st century skills in our nation's educational system. I invite all of my colleagues to join our efforts.

HONORING MR. LLOYD HAND AND
MRS. ANN HAND

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Lloyd Hand and his wife, Mrs. Ann Hand, on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Hand are a very special couple from Texas who have since established themselves here in Washington, D.C. Both have been extremely successful in doing so, as Mr. Hand became involved in law and politics, while Mrs. Hand started her own business designing and selling custom jewelry.

Mr. and Mrs. Hand are just one couple to leave Texas to come to the Potomac. After first meeting at the University of Texas, the couple has been inseparable ever since. Mr. Hand first entered the political realm as assistant to Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson, and eventually became U.S. Chief of Protocol once Johnson became President. Mr. Hand has served a long and rewarding career in government, and now serves as a senior